Utilizing guidance from the IN-CLASS Health and Safety Reentry Guidance from the IDOE and the Johnson County Health Department, Franklin Community Schools has developed a re-entry plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

As with any fluid situation, Franklin Community Schools will continue to rely on the expertise of state and local experts. This document will be updated and shared accordingly as any changes in procedure are made. The plan for reopening Franklin Community Schools was approved by Dr. Moorman, Johnson County Health Official, Johnson County Health Department.

Throughout the planning process, the focus was to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 as much as possible through education and the implementation of preventative measures such as social distancing, proper sanitation, hand-washing/sanitizing stations, schedule adjustments, and revamping the set up of classrooms and cafeterias. In addition to keeping faculty, staff, and students safe, our Guiding Principle of individual student growth remained at the forefront of the decision making process.

*The spread of COVID-19 is not 100% preventable, but FCS will work diligently with the Johnson County Department of Health and the Indiana State Department of health during any cases that affect Franklin Community Schools.*

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Franklin Community Schools will welcome students back to school on Wednesday, August 5, 2020. At this time, there will be no changes to our current school calendar. Students will have the opportunity to attend school on-site or in a virtual format.

On-site instruction
- School building staff will reimagine back-to-school and orientation events.
- Principals in K-6 buildings are crafting plans for recess. This time is valuable for our students. A reimagined recess may involve zones or small groups.
- At the elementary level, building principals are designing schedules that keep students in their classroom groups as much as possible to minimize the mixing of students. For example, we are working to limit the number and length of student transitions throughout the school day.
- Modified schedules will be used at the secondary schools to minimize transitions and large gatherings in hallways, cafeteria, and other open spaces.
- Additionally, principals are planning for increased time outdoors as weather allows. This gives students and staff a break from social distancing and facial coverings.
- Schools will avoid field trips, convocations, and other large gatherings to align with IDOE requirements. Virtual options will be considered.
- CBIS, FCMS, and FCHS will reorganize band classes and the middle school and high school will reorganize choir to align with district-wide precautions.
- School building staff will create a plan for small group interactions in the classroom. This may involve students communicating via shared Google documents. Student desks may be arranged in quadrants to facilitate differentiation. Students may need to remain at their assigned desks while in the classroom. Students may be asked to wear masks during small group interactions.
- CBIS, FCMS, and FCHS will avoid the use of lockers until determined safe or needed (e.g. coats). Designated areas will be determined by teachers for the storage of backpacks in the classroom.

On-Site Operations
Getting to School
- Bus drivers and students will be required to wear a mask as adequate social distancing is not possible.
- Buses will be operated with the windows cracked or down as weather permits to increase ventilation.
- Buses will be sanitized daily between the morning and afternoon trips and in between other trips as much as feasible.
- Students will sit in assigned seats.
- Students will sanitize hands on the way on and off the bus.
● Bus drivers will be trained to recognize signs students are ill to avoid transporting sick students to school when possible.
● Franklin Schools is evaluating the possibility of walk zones to reduce the ridership.
● In an effort to promote social distancing, Franklin Schools will ask parents to collaborate in carpools and walking or biking groups to get students to school safely and reduce bus ridership and car rider line congestion.

In and around the classroom
● Classrooms will be set up with desks spaced and facing the same direction.
● Students will have assigned seats.
● Additional furnishings will be removed to provide as much space between desks as possible and to facilitate thorough cleaning and sanitizing.
● Students will avoid shared supplies, including Chromebooks.
● Students will be 1:1, K-12 with Chromebooks
● There will be increased bandwidth to support technology needs.
● High-contact areas will be cleaned and disinfected regularly.
● Students will wash/sanitize hands as they enter and leave different areas of the building.
● Water bottle fillers will be installed in each school. Drinking fountains will be turned off or limited to filling water bottles or cups.
● Masks/facial coverings
  ○ Faculty, staff, and students will wear facial coverings while inside school buildings except when social distancing is maintained.
  ○ Grade K-12 students will be required to wear facial coverings on buses, during arrival and dismissal, and in hallways.
  ○ Guidelines for facial covering will be adjusted throughout the school year in consultation with the Johnson County Health Department in response to the prevalence of COVID-19 in the community.
● Plexiglass sneeze guards will be utilized where close face to face interactions are expected, such as, but not limited to:
  ○ Front office reception
  ○ Dean's/counselor offices
  ○ K-4 small group instruction tables
  ○ Special education/English language learner pull out instruction
  ○ Cafeteria/concession service/checkout stations
● Educational signage will be placed around the buildings.
● Heating and air conditioning equipment settings will be adjusted to optimize fresh air inside buildings.
● The use of visitors and volunteers will be limited. This may change to be more or less stringent depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 in the community.

Cafeteria
● Social distancing will be accomplished as much as possible using a variety of approaches:
  ○ Serve breakfast/ lunch in classrooms.
- Space and stagger students at cafeteria tables to achieve social distancing and avoid face to face seating.
- Use spaced chairs, sit spots, or bleachers to provide additional seating and social distancing.
- Utilize outdoor areas to eat and provide a break from indoor social distancing constraints when weather permits.
- Utilize gymnasiums, LGI rooms, open hallways, or other building areas to spread out students.
- Increase the number of lunch periods to reduce the number of students in each lunch.

- Student meal ordering and payment will be made as touchless as possible using online meal pre-ordering services.
- Meals will be prepackaged and include disposable utensils to minimize shared contact with these items.
- If meals are not served in classrooms, meal pick up processes will be managed to spread out students using concession stands and other areas where meals can be distributed in a “grab and go” manner.

Clinic
- Each school will have a designated isolation space where students exhibiting symptoms of communicable illness will be isolated and receive care while awaiting pickup.
- Clinic assistants will help provide additional coverage in clinics and isolation rooms.
- Minor cases that are unrelated to a possible communicable illness will be managed in the classroom or away from the clinic or isolation room areas.
- Each clinic or isolation room will be disinfected between cases.
- Students will be required to wear a mask to and from the clinic.
- Students will wash or sanitize their hands before heading to the clinic.
- Students being picked up will be escorted outside to the guardian so the guardian does not enter the school. All pickup safety protocols including ID checks will be conducted outside.
- Social distancing guidelines will be followed.
- Staff will wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- CDC guidelines and instructions from the Johnson County Health Department will be followed when making decisions about excluding students and staff from school and determining when they can return to school.

Special Education
- Special education laws are unchanged.
- Parents are encouraged to stay in close contact with teachers, principals, and the Director of Special Education. Communication is key!
- No changes can be made to an IEP without a case conference.
- Precautions for COVID-19 will be made in conjunction with the student's IEP.
• Staff and parents/guardians will collaborate on solutions for students who may be unable to wear a facial covering.

Social-Emotional Learning
• FCS will integrate social-emotional learning and mental wellness across the district prioritizing student and staff healing and psychological safety.
• Social-emotional and mental wellness teams will be established.
• Masks will be highly encouraged and may be required in some settings, in all counseling and small group sessions.
• Sensory rooms, objects, fidgets, etc. will be sanitized, discarded, or gifted to students.
• Students and staff should wash hands before and after interactions with therapy dogs.

Health Protocols - As per the IN-CLASS COVID-19 Health and Safety Considerations for Indiana Schools provided by the Indiana Department of Education.

It is essential for the school community to work together to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 in the school environment and in the community while still providing a quality education program.

State statute gives public school districts the authority to exclude students who have a contagious disease such as COVID-19 or are liable to transmit it after exposure (IC 20-34-3-9). In addition, the local health department has the authority to exclude students from school and may order students and others to isolate or quarantine (IC 16-41-9-1.6). As such, districts/schools are encouraged to work closely with their local health departments.

Symptoms Impacting Consideration for Exclusion from School
Students and employees should be trained to recognize the following COVID-19-related symptoms:

• A fever or chills
• Cough
• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
• Repeated shaking with chills
• Muscle pain
• Headache
• Sore throat
• New loss of taste or smell
• Nausea or vomiting
• Diarrhea
• Congestion or running nose

Students and employees should be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 based on CDC Guidance that is not otherwise explained.

Return to School After Exclusion
Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the CDC. Currently, those guidelines are:
Untested
Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms may return if the following three conditions are met:

- They have not had a fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers);
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.

The state [website](#) has a list of over 200 testing facilities, their location, and hours of operation. This list is updated frequently.

Tested Positive- Symptomatic
Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:

- The individual no longer has a fever (without the use medicine that reduces fevers);
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
- The individual has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.

Tested Positive- Asymptomatic
Persons who have not had symptoms but test positive for COVID-19 may return when they have gone 10 calendar days past their test without symptoms and have been preferably released by a healthcare provider. Students may also return if they are approved to do so in writing by the student’s health care provider.

Tested Positive- Impact on School Operations
Establish predetermined thresholds for mitigation strategies by following ISDH’s recommendation to work with your local health department in following the CDC guidance which can be found [here](#). Reference page three, “When a confirmed case has entered a school, regardless of community transmission.”

Screening
The current [CDC guidelines](#) recommend screening all students and employees for COVID-19 symptoms and history of exposure. Screening can consist of self-screening, school-based screening, and/or medical inquiries. FCS will support self-screening and medical inquiries.

- **Self-Screening**
  FCS will communicate information to parents and employees about the symptoms of COVID-19 and require them to self-screen before coming to school. Students and employees exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without being otherwise explained are prohibited from coming to school, and if they do come to school, they should be sent home immediately. FCS will provide professional development regarding the recognition of COVID-19 symptoms and screening.
Medical Inquiries
Federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made, but given the nature of the pandemic, more leeway has been given to districts/schools in this circumstance to make additional medical inquiries of staff and students than would otherwise be allowed.

- If a parent tells the school that a student is ill, the district/school may ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19.
- If an employee calls in sick or appears ill, the school can inquire as to whether the employee is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
- If a person is obviously ill, the school may make additional inquiries and may exclude the person from school property.

Even without symptoms, if a student or employee has recently had contact with a person with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, has someone in their home being tested for COVID-19, or has recently traveled from somewhere considered to be a “hot spot” by the CDC, the district/school may exclude the student or employee from the school building and recommend that they self-quarantine for 14 calendar days.

In the event that a student must quarantine for this purpose, the teacher will work with the student to maintain instruction during that time.

Attendance
- Franklin Community Schools will extend grace on attendance during this time as parents are encouraged to keep their children home if they are ill and/or are exhibiting symptoms.
- There will be no perfect attendance awards.

Extracurricular Activities
Athletics
This quick reference guide below provides an overview of the expectations for our student-athletes, managers, and coaches upon re-entry to our Franklin campuses and athletic facilities. For more information please contact Director of Athletics, Bill Doty, at 317-346-8216 or email to dotyw@franklinschools.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 1 (July 6-19)</th>
<th>Phase 2 (July 20-Aug 14)</th>
<th>Phase 3 (August 15)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No more than 15 Hours/Wk</td>
<td>July 20-August 2: Normal Summer Rules per IHSAA Bylaws and Policies</td>
<td>Fall Contests Begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Days of Conditioning Allowed</td>
<td>August 3: Official start of Fall Practices; Normal IHSAA Bylaws and</td>
<td>Spectator and Event Management: Capacity Levels TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Days of Sport Specific</td>
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General Expectations

- Student-athletes, managers, and coaches will wash their hands with soap and water or with hand sanitizer before and immediately following any athletic activity.
- Student-athletes, managers, and coaches will wear face coverings during any classroom “chalk-talk” setting. Coaches will also wear face coverings while supervising the weight room.
- Student-athletes, managers, and coaches are not required to wear face coverings during conditioning or sport-specific activities.
- Weight room equipment will be sanitized immediately following each session.
- Student-athletes, managers, and coaches will provide their own refillable water bottle.
- Student-athletes, managers, and coaches will provide their own practice gear and apparel.
- Laundry service is not provided on campus during Phase 1. Student-athletes, managers, and coaches should launder their own practice gear and apparel immediately following a practice or workout.
- Locker rooms are not available during Phase 1. Student-athletes, managers, and coaches should shower at home immediately following a practice or workout.
- All student-athletes will have a 2019-20 Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form on file in the athletic office and submit a signed 2020-21 Health History Update Questionnaire and Consent & Release Certificate.
- If a student-athlete does not have a 2019-20 physical on file and answers “yes” to any question on the health history update questionnaire then a 2020-21 Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form must be submitted to the athletic department.
- Coaches will screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to each practice or workout session. Daily attendance records for each team activity will be on file in the athletic office.

Music Instruction

In the uncertainty and stress of the COVID-19 pandemic, music and arts education is more important than ever to support the social and emotional well-being of students, create a welcoming school environment, and help our community strengthen their connectedness during this time of social isolation and social distancing. To that end, the following considerations will be made for keeping our music classrooms safe while music learning continues:

- Attention will be paid to the latest scientific information on the spread of aerosols during singing and playing instruments when making decisions about student performance. Studies currently in progress will provide more information by early July.
- Students will be encouraged and empowered to recognize their responsibility in taking individual precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community. Instructors will model and facilitate instruction on these precautions.
- Rehearse singing and playing in outdoor spaces when possible
- Rehearse singing and playing in smaller groups or larger spaces as needed to maintain social distancing
- Chairs, stands, or other means of marking student spots will be spaced to maximize social distancing in classrooms and rehearsal spaces. Assigned seating will be used in all settings and seating charts will be maintained to facilitate contact tracing if necessary.
- Shields or other precautions may be used for wind instruments
- Instructors will have established procedures for music distribution, instrument storage, and traffic patterns that provide for social distancing and eliminate sharing of materials
- Follow recommended instrument cleaning guidelines, minimize sharing of instruments and other equipment, and clean any instrument in between uses
- Instructors will screen students for COVID-19 symptoms prior to each meeting or rehearsal.
- When safe performance measures are not possible, instruction will focus on low-risk modes of performance as well as creating, connecting to, and listening and responding to music.
- These precautions may become more or less stringent depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 cases in the community and the direction provided by the Johnson County Health Department.

Childcare
- Cub Care will provide before and after school care for students in grades K-6.
- FCS will create standards and expectations, in collaboration with local health officials. There will be an emphasis on handwashing, social distancing, and masks, when appropriate, for the students' return to school. FCS will provide parents with more details as we get closer to Aug 5th re-entry.

Virtual Learning Definitions
- eLearning - intermittent online learning lasting fewer than 5 days at a time.
- @HomeLearning - online learning for a school or schools or the entire district for a prolonged period of time.
- Virtual Learning - parent choice, online learning that takes place for a semester or the entire school year.
  - There will be a grace period between August 5th and August 28th and again at the onset of the second semester to help families determine if the virtual learning option is best for their student. After the approved trial period, students will not be permitted to transition from one learning format to another.
  - Students and families who were disengaged during the 2020 spring semester @HomeLearning experience and choose the virtual option for the 2020-2021
school year will need to meet with the building principal or designee to review the expectations of virtual learning.

- Students in grades K-6 will receive their instruction and assignments via Google Classroom. Families will be responsible for all hard copy materials. Online office hours will be available sometime during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
- Students in grades 7-12 who decide to receive all instruction virtually will participate in APEX, the Indiana Online Academy, or another comparable option. FCS will consult with families on the most appropriate format for students.

- Online learning due to quarantine/illness - students who are absent from on-site learning due to illness and/or quarantine.
  - Students who are ill or quarantined because of an ill person in the household will receive materials and assignments via Google Classroom.
  - Teachers may schedule daily or weekly office hours via Google Meet when students are absent from class.
  - Teachers may decide to video record their direct instruction to assist students who are absent for multiple weeks due to illness or a quarantine situation.

References -
- IN-CLASS provided by the Indiana Department of Education
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)